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Security Council

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Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004)

Note verbale dated 7 January 2008 from the Permanent Mission of Mexico to the United Nations addressed to the Committee

The Permanent Mission of Mexico to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004) and has the honour to refer to its note S/AC.44/2007/ODA/OC/84 of 17 October 2007 concerning the report being prepared by the Committee.

In this connection, the Permanent Mission of Mexico is pleased to transmit herewith additional information provided by the Government of Mexico, pursuant to Security Council resolution 1540 (2004), and requests that it be added to the information previously provided (see annex).

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Annex to the note verbale dated 7 January 2008 from the Permanent Mission of Mexico to the United Nations addressed to the Committee

On 11 October 2007, the High-Level Specialized Committee on International Disarmament, Terrorism and Security, established for the purpose of coordinating the actions of the Federal Executive Power for compliance with the international obligations of the Mexican State in the national sphere in matters of international disarmament, terrorism and/or security, held its first regular session.

The main purpose of the first regular session was to establish, with the approval of the National Security Council, permanent operational groups to carry out the functions provided for in article 11 of the Agreement of the National Security Council establishing the High-Level Specialized Committee, and to define the main actions and activities of those groups.

At the first regular session, the High-Level Specialized Committee also set forth the measures that need to be taken as soon as possible to implement Security Council resolution 1540 (2004). These measures include the following:

- Adopting and implementing legislation prohibiting all non-State actors from manufacturing, acquiring, developing, transporting, transferring or using nuclear, chemical or biological weapons, as well as their means of delivery;
- Establishing domestic controls to prevent the proliferation of nuclear, chemical and biological weapons, as well as their means of delivery;
- Establishing and maintaining appropriate measures to secure the production, use, stockpiling and transport of dual-use precursors;
- Developing appropriate and effective border controls to prevent and combat the illicit trafficking and brokering of dual-use precursors;
- Implementing and applying export control legislation and regulations providing for criminal, civil and administrative penalties;
- Establishing national control lists for nuclear, radiological, chemical and biological materials, equipment and technology;
- Developing mechanisms for cooperating with the weapons industry to ensure compliance with export control laws and non-proliferation standards;
- Initiating cooperation activities aimed at the preventing the illicit trafficking of nuclear, chemical and biological weapons, their means of delivery and related materials.

The High-Level Specialized Committee has set guidelines for the establishment, composition and responsibilities of the permanent operational groups provided for in article 11 of the Agreement of the National Security Council. The main responsibilities of the operational groups shall be to:

- Assess what is needed in order to optimize inter-institutional coordination with respect to the manufacture, acquisition, development, transport, transfer or use of nuclear weapons and their means of delivery by non-State actors;

- Conduct an analysis of the technological infrastructure necessary for the electronic exchange of information which could help prevent the proliferation of nuclear weapons and their means of delivery;
- Assess the extent to which terminal operators at deep-water ports and international airports have complied with requirements to install specialized equipment and provide technological assistance to prevent and combat the illicit trafficking of nuclear and radioactive materials;
- Follow up national programmes to prevent and combat illicit trafficking in dual-use precursors for nuclear and radioactive materials;
- Analyse and assess the requirements for becoming a partner in the Missile Technology Control Regime;
- Follow up progress towards becoming a participant in the Nuclear Suppliers Group;
- Adopt national regulations to ensure appropriate control of nuclear and radioactive materials;
- Improve the timely exchange of information necessary for the identification and monitoring of dangerous operations;
- Incorporate the guidelines and control lists of the Nuclear Suppliers Group in the national registry with a view to preparing national lists of nuclear and radiological materials, equipment and technology;
- Request the International Atomic Energy Agency to implement the International Nuclear Security Advisory Service (INSServ) in Mexico in order to strengthen its capacity to prevent and detect nuclear terrorism;
- Set out the measures to be taken by the regulatory agencies for explosives and hazardous materials in monitoring the sale, destination and end use of explosives or hazardous materials used in biological and chemical weapons;
- Analyse and assess the requirements for participation in the Australia Group;
- Assess the control mechanisms set out in the Chemical Weapons Convention and the Biological Weapons Convention, and by the Australia Group, and study the feasibility of using those mechanisms to help establish a national control registry containing the national control lists of chemical and biological materials, equipment and technology;
- Adopt current regulations to ensure adequate control of the equipment used to trans-ship dual-use chemical and biological materials, equipment and technology;
- Develop means of exchanging practical information on addressing the trafficking of weapons by international terrorist groups;
- Implement measures to prevent the trafficking of small arms and light weapons;
- Analyse and assess the requirements for becoming a Participating State in the Wassenaar Arrangement.

- Assess the control mechanisms provided for in the Wassenaar Agreement and study the feasibility of using them to set up a national control registry;
- Identify what needs to be checked in travel documents in order to prevent the movement of international terrorists through effective border checks and monitor the issuance of identity and travel documents;
- Follow up information obtained by monitoring public and private telecommunication networks in order to prevent the use of such networks by terrorist groups;
- Examine international regulations with a view to incorporating them in national legislation relating to the adoption of laws on the prohibition of the manufacture, acquisition, development, transport, transfer or use of nuclear, chemical or biological weapons, as well as their means of delivery, by all non-State actors;
- Examine international regulations with a view to aligning domestic legislation with them by adopting appropriate laws and regulations to control the export, transit and trans-shipment of dual-use nuclear, radiological, chemical and biological materials, equipment and technology;
- Examine and update regulations relating to the provision of funds that might contribute to proliferation.